

ARTICULATING CRISIS AND CREATING RADICAL ALTERNATIVES



Insights from Weavers of the
GLOBAL TAPESTRY OF ALTERNATIVES

CREDITS

Written by **Shrishtee Bajpai** and **Vasna Ramasar**.

Illustrations and Design by **Urvi Shah** (urvishxh@gmail.com).

Illustration on last page inspired from original artwork by **Ashish Kothari**.

We are thankful to **Franco Augusto** for his insights in designing this document.

First edition published in February 2025

Typeset in Sketchnote Square and Karrik



Refer to a detailed report of this documentation on

www.globaltapestryofalternatives.org/reports:articulating:index

This report presents the experiences of a process of weaving the pluriverse called The Global Tapestry of Alternatives (GTA). GTA is an initiative seeking to create solidarity networks and strategic alliances amongst radical alternatives on local, regional and the global levels. It locates itself in or helps initiate interactions among alternatives to the destructive hegemonic system. GTA has been working to create spaces of collaboration and exchange, in order to learn about and from each other, critically but constructively challenge each other, offer active solidarity to each other whenever needed, interweave the initiatives in common actions, and give them visibility to inspire other people to create their own initiatives. It seeks to facilitate people seeking transformative change, hopefully eventually converging into a critical mass of alternative ways that can support the conditions for the radical systemic changes we need.



All the content of GTA is in the Public Domain. The copy and reuse of the content is allowed as long as the source is cited.



INTERTWINED POLYCRISIS



WEAVING A GLOBAL TAPESTRY

The idea of GTA emerged from the Indian process called Vikalp Sangam (Alternatives Confluence) and in discussion with other similar processes such as Crianza Mutua in Mexico. GTA is now endorsed by international organizations and networks and many individual referents (activists, public intellectuals, academics, etc.). The Global Tapestry of Alternatives (GTA) facilitation team comprises members from all continents.



GTA'S WEAVERS

WHAT IS A WEAVER?

A Weaver as a local, regional, or national network or organization that connects or consists of multiple Alternatives on different themes/spheres, in an inter-sectoral way. By being a “weaver”, they are committed to participate in the GTA, developing ways of dialogue, interconnection, collaboration and solidarity with other Weavers.

VIKALP SANGAM

Vikalp Sangam is an evolving process that involves in its core functioning, over 90 movements and organisations in India. Started in 2014, emerging out of a search for grounded alternatives to the current model of ‘development’ that is built on ecological destruction and rising inequalities, VS is a confluence where people share, collaborate, and reflect on their experiences and knowledge. This enables shared peer learning and envisioning of a just and ecologically conscious society. Additionally, the Sangam groups engage in collective advocacy for policy and systemic transformations.

MOVEMENT FOR ALTERNATIVES AND SOLIDARITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (MASSA)

MASSA is a convergence of peoples and grassroots organizations working together to forge an alternative: a regional model of integration from below that challenges the ASEAN paradigm. This alternative regionalism is based on ‘alternatives’ — the resistance and non-mainstream development practices of Southeast Asian peoples — which are guided by cooperation, solidarity, mutual benefit, the commons principle, and collective wellbeing. The movement is both a shelter and a platform in which these alternative grassroots practices are strengthened.

CRIANZAS MUTUAS COLOMBIA

The purpose is to “build another kind of knowledge which does not separate thinking and doing”. In its constellation, Crianzas Mutuas Colombia holds the elements of the places and people that were part of its initiation. It is a network of alternatives that seeks to transform the hierarchical systems of oppression and potentiates the weaving actions of communities, organizations and collectives in transition.

CRianza MUTUA MEXICO

Crianza Mutua seeks to identify, document and connect groups through communal webs which are actively dismantling hierarchies in everyday life, putting principles of sufficiency into practice and constructing and extending their autonomy from the market and the State.



CRIANZA MUTUA
MEXICO

CONNECTING GROUPS



DISMANTLING HIERARCHIES

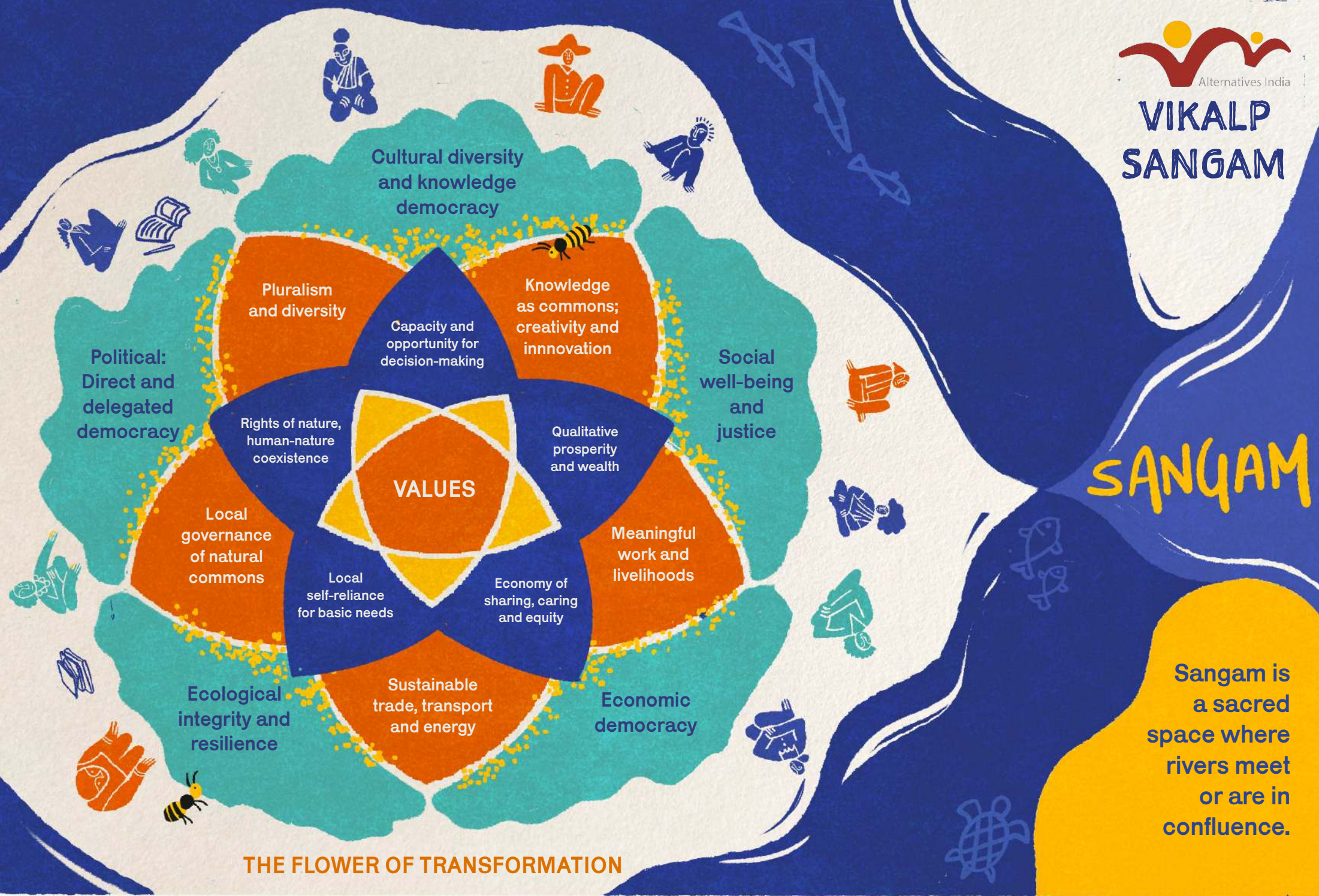
LEARNING AND HEALING
COMMUNALLY

ENTRAMADOS COMUNITARIOS

SANGAM

Sangam is
a sacred
space where
rivers meet
or are in
confluence.

THE FLOWER OF TRANSFORMATION



ALTER
NATIVITIES

CRIANZAS MUTUAS
COLOMBIA

MAP OF
THE RIVERS



SENTIPENSARACTUAR
FEELING-THINKING-ACTING

RELATIONALITY

TERRITORIAL TAPESTRY. DESIGN OF TRANSITIONS
PLURIVERSAL TERRITORIAL PEACE. AGROPOLITANISM. JUSTICE & ECONOMIES FOR LIFE



MOVEMENT FOR ALTERNATIVES AND SOLIDARITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (MASSA)

ASEAN Civil Society

ALTERNATIVE
REGIONALISM

people 2
people
dialogues

documenting
alternatives

empowering grassroots

COMMONALITIES AMONGST WEAVERS



Alternatives are pluralistic. Accepting and encouraging this diversity is key – whatever is being developed as an alternative prevailing systems of domination needs to be context-specific. Alternatives stress the need for values and practices that are fundamentally different from those followed by the dominant system, e.g. cooperation, solidarity, equality

and equity instead of competition, the production of the common instead of privatisation, inclusion instead of articulation of differences, togetherness instead of individualism, conserving life and nature instead of exploitation of nature, diversity instead of homogeneity. The Weavers of the GTA have together articulated some of the pillars of alternatives and these are presented in the following 4 slides.



THE CARE AND RESPECT
FOR THE LIFE OF WOMEN,
QUEER, TRANS AND GENDER
NON-CONFORMING PEOPLE



ERADICATE RACISM,
SEXISM, CASTEISM, AND
CLASSISM, ABLEISM,
HOMOPHOBIA,
TRANSPHOBIA, AGEISM
AND RURAL-URBAN
HIERARCHIES



DISSOLVING POWER,
COMMAND,
AND CONTROL STRUCTURES
THROUGH FORMS OF CARING
ORGANIZATION AND
COLLECTIVE
DECISION-MAKING

Breaking with
**SYSTEMICALLY
CREATED
HIERARCHIES**



MAKING VISIBLE
THE IMPORTANCE
OF CARE WORK



~~STOCK~~ STALK MARKET

BREAK WITH
DEPENDENCIES ON
THE MARKET AND
THE STATE

ADOPT IN PRACTICE
THE PRINCIPLE OF
SUFFICIENCY



BEYOND INDIVIDUALISM,
THE GROUPS SHARE
MOTIVES, RATHER THAN
GOALS, TO BE TOGETHER.



BREAK WITH THE
PROCESSES OF BIGGER
AND BIGGER SCALE



AUTONOMOUS AND
INTER-RELATED
CONSTRUCTION OF
KNOWLEDGE



Breaking
with the
CAPITALIST
SYSTEM

Breaking
with the
culture of
**ANTHROPO-
CENTRISM**

TAKING CARE OF LIFE
CONSIDERING THE DAILY
ACTIVITIES REPRESENT THE
TANGIBLE PROCESSES
IN COMMUNITIES



RE-INTEGRATING
OURSELVES INTO NATURE,
REMOVING THE
HUMAN-NATURE DIVIDE



INTERSPECIES JUSTICE
AND RECIPROCAL WAYS
OF BEING



Breaking with the
HEGEMONY of
nation-state and
the system
of liberal
democracy



**DEFENDING THE TERRITORY
WHICH CONSTITUTES
RESISTANCE TO SYSTEMIC
DOMINATION**



**COMMUNITISING LIFE AS AN
ALTERNATIVE TO THE STATE,
PRIVATE PROPERTY AND
THE MARKET**



**STRENGTHEN ROOTING
PROCESSES THAT
RECOGNIZE LIFE AT THE
LOCAL LEVEL**



**CONTRIBUTE TO
DECOLONIZING AND
DECONSTRUCTING THE
COLONIZATION PROCESS
OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH**



**FOSTERING DIRECT,
RADICAL FORMS OF
DEMOCRACY**

A. Assemblies and gatherings



GLOBAL WEAVING

E. Working and thematic groups



B. Collaborative documentation and mapping



C. Weaver Dialogues

D. Visiblising alternatives through periodicals and regenerative stories



FUTURE
ENVISIONING

RADICAL
ADVOCACY

CONFLUENCE
AND GATHERINGS

OF WEAVING
SIX
ALTERNATIVES
PRAXIS

PEOPLE 2 PEOPLE
DIALOGUES

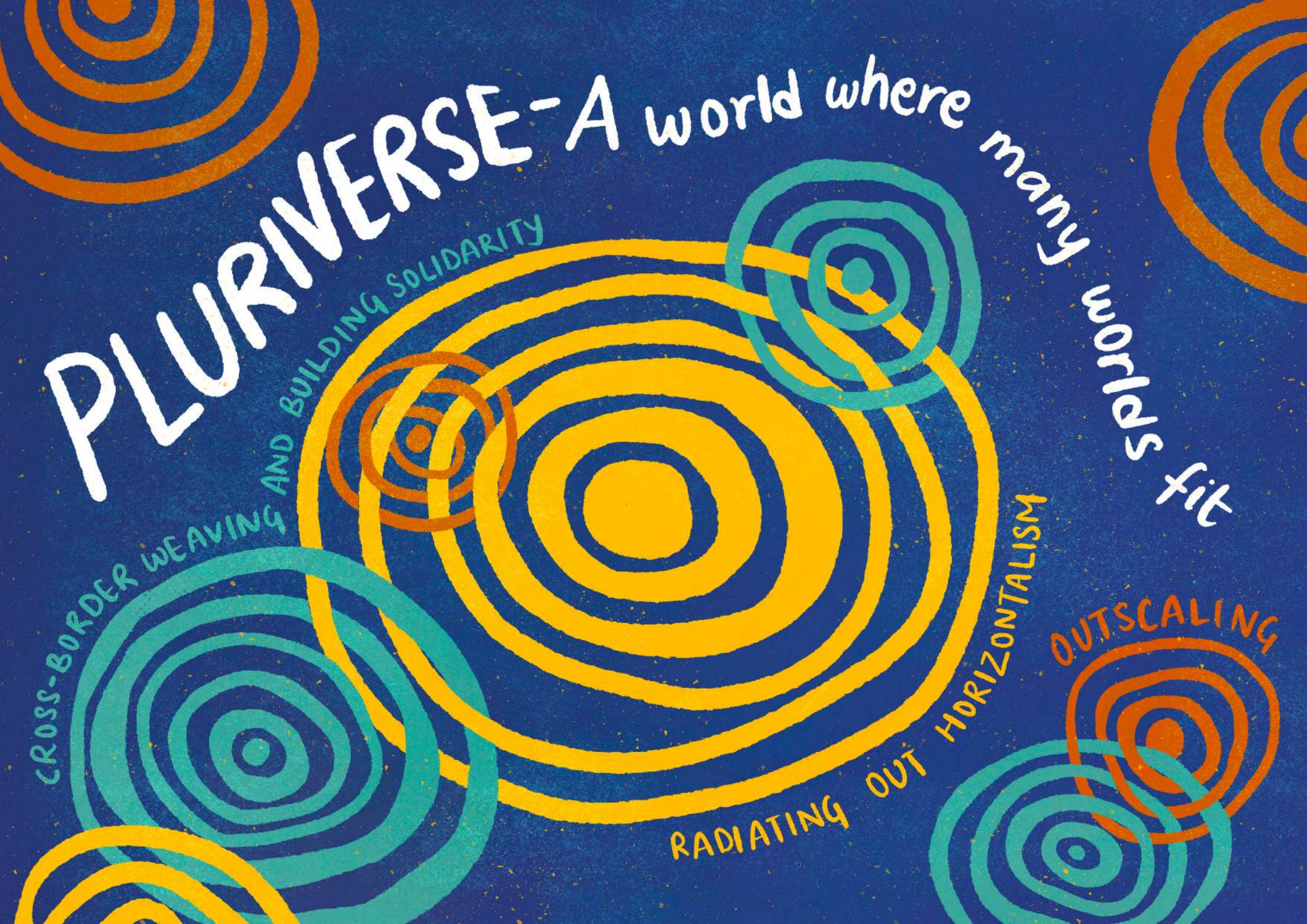
INTERGENERATIONAL
LEARNING

COMMUNITY
CARE
GUIDELINES

ECO-CULTURAL MAP

CALENDAR





PLURIVERSE-A world where many worlds fit

CROSS-BORDER WEAVING AND BUILDING SOLIDARITY

RADIATING OUT HORIZONTALISM

OUTSCALING

GLOBAL TAPESTRY of ALTERNATIVES



Refer to a detailed report of this documentation on www.globaltapestryofalternatives.org/reports:articulating:index